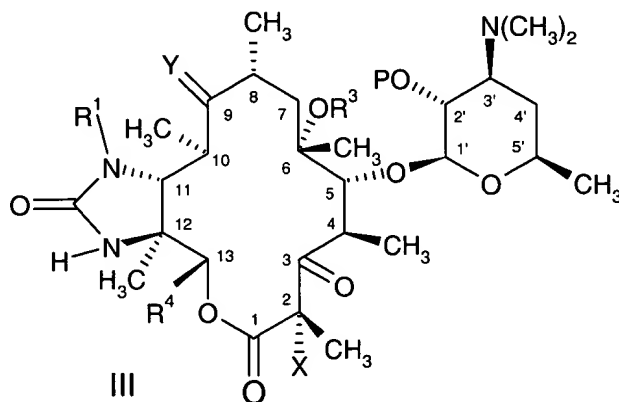


Please amend the claims as follows:

Replace Claims 2 and 8 with the following corresponding amended claims.

B<sup>1</sup>  
 2 (twice amended). The compound of claim 1 wherein Y is =O or =NOR<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>1</sup> is (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, wherein the heterocyclic is substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, R<sup>2</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkenyl, R<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, R<sup>4</sup> is ethyl, R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and R<sup>6</sup> is H.

8 (twice amended). The method of claim 7 further wherein the compound of formula II is prepared by treating a compound of the formula



B<sup>2</sup>  
 with a strong base and a compound of formula R<sup>2</sup>-L, where L is a leaving group, and wherein R<sup>2</sup> is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkynyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl,

(C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl) C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, and (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl) C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl wherein said alkyl moieties of the foregoing groups are optionally substituted by halo or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and wherein said heterocyclic moieties are optionally substituted by 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic, (4- to 10-membered heterocyclic) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, or (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> aryl) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, and further wherein the aryl and heterocyclic moieties of each of the foregoing groups and optional substituents is optionally substituted by 1 to 4 R<sup>7</sup> groups.

#### Remarks

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has found that Claims 1-7 and 9-10 are allowable. However, the Examiner has rejected Claim 8 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim 8 is amended, consistent with the Examiner's suggestions regarding the term "method of claim 0" and the scope of the definition of R<sup>2</sup>, to place Claim 8 in a condition for allowance. Likewise, Claim 2, is also amended consistent with the Examiner's comments on Claim 8 regarding the term "method of claim 0". No new matter has been added by this amendment.

The Examiner's rejection of the pending Claims shall now be addressed in the order made by the Examiner.

#### Rejection of Claim 8 Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants claim as the invention.